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SOURCE

Newspapers as indicated.

## ADMINISTRATIVE BRIGADES TO STUDY THUERINGEN'S AGRICULTURAL PROBLEMS

TO REPRESENT MINISTRIES -- Thurringer Volk, No 35, 10 Feb 50

Newly instituted administrative brigades are to conduct investigations of critical problems in agriculture in Thueringen.

The brigades will be composed of technically and politically qualified representatives of the various ministries and organizations. They will be assigned to specific projects whose problems they will study; if necessary, they will take immediate measures to eliminate existing difficulties and abuses.

While in the beginning the brigades will deal only with agricultural problems, later they will also investigate cooperative methods and policies.

TO STOP RATIONING OF FARM PRODUCTS -- Nachrichten fuer Aussenhandel, No 12, 11 Feb 50

According to Dr Karl Hamann, East German Minister of Trade and Supply, it is planned to stop rationing of agricultural products after the 1950 harvest. Imports will play a significant role in raising the living standard.

The price level for agricultural products is to be standardized by the end of this year; that is, prices in the Free Shops will be the same as in other stores.

SEED PLANTS TO BE PAID FOR IN KIND -- Nachrichten fuer Aussenhandel, No 12, 11 Feb 50

Paul Merker, State Secretary in the East German Ministry for Agriculture and Forestry, announced that this year high-grade seed potatoes and seed grain will be supplied only against compensation in kind. The law for the attainment of prewar per-hectare yields prohibits any other form of compensation for seed plants prior to the 1950-51 harvest.

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EXCERDS AFFORESTATION TARGET -- Taegliche Rundschau, No 40, 16 Feb 50

Kreis Wernigerode exceeded its afforestation target for 1749 by 150 percent. Five hundred hectares of forests were newly planted and two large-scale nurseries were laid out, which are to furnish some 5 million trees within the next few years.

The 1950 plan provides for the afforestation of 750 hectares of totally deforested areas.

TO PLANT 3,000 HECTARES OF MEDICINAL HERBS -- Nachrichten fuer Aussenhandel, No 12, 11 Feb 50

Soviet Zone Germany will plant 3,000 hectares of medicinal herbs in 1950, consisting chiefly of peppermint, valerian, and fennel.

Collection of wild herbs, berries, and flowers will be limited to 30-40 of the most important ones, such as camomile, linden flowers, arnica, wild thyme, and lesser centaury (erythraea centaurium).

Collection of empty poppy heads, an important source of morphine, is to be intensified.

MECKLENBURG INCREASES LIVESTOCK BREEDING -- Bauern Echo, No 9, 11 Jan 50

Mecklenburg's 1949 target for livestock breeding has been fully met and in some instances even exceeded.

The following table compares the numbers of livestock in Mecklenburg before the war with the number just after the war and at present, and also includes the planned figures for 1950.

	1939	<u> 1946</u>	Dec 1949	1950 Plan
Horses Horned cattle Hogs Sheep Goats Poultry Beehives	192,874 758,472 1,162,800 439,340 20,505	130,960 368,130 151,191 79,355 6,744	168,491 699,755 929,508 170,477 58,009 3,655,155 78,738	179,000 760,000 1,160.00 178,000 70,000

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